

2. Amendments to the Claims:

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A personal care apparatus, comprising
an air pump having a suction piece and a motor for exerting a suction effect on the human skin, wherein the suction piece is connected to the air pump via an air-transfer duct, and wherein the suction piece has at least one circumferentially defined suction aperture for suction-based interaction with the human skin, and wherein the suction piece in the area of the suction aperture is designed to form a skin protuberance in a suction-based interaction with the skin, and wherein the suction piece has at least two suction piece sections extending to the suction aperture and defining the suction aperture, said two suction piece sections being radially adjustable and designed to exert a radial force on a skin protuberance formed in a suction-based interaction with the skin, and wherein the suction piece has at least two sealing parts of elastically deformable design extending to the suction aperture and defining the suction aperture, each sealing part being situated between two mutually adjacent suction piece sections and having an airtight connection to the two mutually adjacent suction piece sections.
2. (Original) A personal care apparatus (1) as claimed in claim 1, wherein the suction piece (8) has two diametrically opposed suction piece sections (14, 15), which are composed of a material that is relatively hard compared to the elastically deformable sealing parts (19, 20).

3. (Original) A personal care apparatus (1) as claimed in claim 2, wherein the suction piece (8) with its two suction piece sections (14, 15) and its two sealing parts (19, 20) has been manufactured by a two-component injection molding process.
4. (Original) A personal care apparatus (1) as claimed in claim 2, wherein the at least two suction piece sections (14, 15) of the suction piece (8) each have a sharp defining edge (K) for defining the suction aperture (13).
5. (Original) A personal care apparatus (1) as claimed in claim 4, wherein the at least two defining edges (K) have a circular arc shape.
6. (Original) A personal care apparatus (1) as claimed in claim 5, wherein the at least two defining edges (K) have a diametric interval of between 3.0 mm and 4.0 mm.
7. A personal care apparatus (1) as claimed in claim 6, wherein the at least two defining edges (K) have a diametric interval of 3.4 mm.
8. (Previously Presented) A suction piece for a personal care apparatus , comprising:
at least one circumferentially defined suction aperture for suction-based interaction with the human skin, wherein the suction piece in the area of the suction aperture is designed to form a skin protuberance in a suction-based interaction with the skin[[,]];
at least two suction piece sections extending to the suction aperture and defining the suction aperture , said two suction piece sections being radially adjustable and designed to exert a radial force on a skin protuberance formed in a suction-based interaction with the skin[[,]]; at least two sealing parts of elastically deformable design extending to the suction aperture and defining the suction aperture, each sealing part being situated between two mutually adjacent suction piece sections and having an airtight connection to the two mutually adjacent suction piece sections.

9. (Original) A suction piece (8) as claimed in claim 8, wherein the suction piece (8) has two diametrically opposed suction piece sections (14, 15) which are composed of a relatively hard material compared to the elastically deformable sealing parts (19, 20).
10. (Original) A suction piece (8) as claimed in claim 9, wherein the suction piece (8) with its two suction piece sections (14, 15) and its two sealing parts (19, 20) has been manufactured by a two-component injection molding process.
11. (Original) A suction piece (8) as claimed in claim 8, wherein the at least two suction piece sections (14, 15) of the suction pieces (8) each have a sharp defining edge (K) for defining the suction aperture (13).
12. (Original) A suction piece (8) as claimed in claim 11, wherein the at least two defining edges (K) have a circular are shape.
13. (Original) A suction piece (8) as claimed in claim 12, wherein the at least two defining edges (K) have a diametric interval of between 3.0 mm and 4.0 mm.
14. (Original) A suction piece (8) as claimed in claim 13, wherein the at least two defining edges (K) have a diametric interval of 3.4 mm.